

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-04 INR-05

LAB-01 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 L-02

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00

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R 151645Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4722

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 5580

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, ELAB, NL, PO

SUBJECT: DUTCH TRADE UNION LEADER ON PORTUGAL

1. DURING DISCUSSION OF BROAD RANGE OF ISSUES NOV. 14, WIM KOK, PRESIDENT OF NETHERLANDS' LARGEST TRADE UNION FEDERATION, NVV, TOLD EMBOFF THAT HIS UNION MADE 100,000 GUILDERS (U.S. \$38,000) CONTRIBUTION THROUGH ICFTU TO PORTUGUESE TRADE UNIONISTS. IN ADDITION, NVV, GERMAN DGB, AND BELGIAN UNIONS WERE "OWNERS" OF A SOLIDARITY FUND HELD BY ETUC, WHICH WAS ALSO BEING CHANNELED TO PORTUGUESE. SIZE OF SOLIDARITY FUND NOT SPECIFIED.

2. KOK SAID HE HAD BEEN IN PORTUGAL SHORTLY AFTER APRIL COUP, AND HAD BEEN SHOCKED AT EXTENT TO WHICH COMMUNISTS WERE IN CONTROL OF PORTUGUESE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT. WHEN HE POINTED OUT NEED FOR BUILDING UP A DEMOCRATIC PORTUGUESE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT IN NVV
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PUBLICATIONS LATER, HE HAD FACED CRITICISM FROM

COMMUNISTS IN HIS UNION. HE POINTED OUT THAT HIS EXECUTIVE BOARD HAD SUPPORTED HIM FULLY, AND THAT UNION WOULD BE ACTIVELY SUPPORTING FUND RAISING ON BEHALF OF MARIO SOARES AND PORTUGUESE SOCIALIST PARTY. (DUTCH LABOR PARTY AND SOCIALIST BROADCASTING GROUP ANNOUNCED JOINT SPONSORSHIP OF CAMPAIGN THIS WEEK.)

3. WITHOUT SUPPLYING DETAILS OR NAMES OF THOSE INVOLVED, KOK SAID THAT HE HAD RECEIVED INFORMATION NOVEMBER 12 CONCERNING THE POSSIBLE CREATION OF A NEW NON-COMMUNIST TRADE UNION MOVEMENT IN PORTUGAL. NEW MOVEMENT, HE IMPLIED, WOULD BE RESULT OF BREAK-AWAY OF SOCIALIST INCLINED MEMBERS FROM PRESENT UNIONS. KOK INDICATED THAT ICFTU-SPONSORED ORGANIZERS WHO HAD BEEN SENT TO PORTUGAL INSTRUMENTAL IN DEVELOPING POSSIBILITIES FOR CREATING NEW MOVEMENT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE ORGANIZATIONS, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974THEHA05580
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740331-0717
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741137/aaaabfmg.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2002 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <13-Aug-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DUTCH TRADE UNION LEADER ON PORTUGAL
TAGS: PINR, ELAB, NL, PO, ICFTU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005